



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
Telephone: (626) 458-5100  
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**GAIL FARBER, Director**

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

June 29, 2010

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

## ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#51 JUNE 29, 2010

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**ALAMITOS BARRIER PROJECT, DOMINGUEZ GAP BARRIER PROJECT,  
AND WEST COAST BASIN BARRIER PROJECT  
INJECTION WELL CONDITION ASSESSMENT  
CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENT  
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 4)  
(3 VOTES)**

### **SUBJECT**

This action is to award and authorize entering into a contract with MWH Americas, Inc., to perform a condition assessment of injection wells associated with the Alamitos Barrier Project, Dominguez Gap Barrier Project, and West Coast Basin Barrier Project.

### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:**

1. Find that this project is statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. Award and delegate authority to the Chief Engineer or her designee to contract with MWH Americas, Inc., to perform a condition assessment of injection wells associated with the Alamitos Barrier Project, Dominguez Gap Barrier Project, and West Coast Basin Barrier Project, for a total not-to-exceed fee of \$3,000,000 and a term of two years commencing upon the issuance of the Notice to Proceed. Funds for this project are available in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Flood Control District Budget.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The purpose of the recommended actions is to perform a condition assessment of injection wells associated with the Alamitos Barrier Project (ABP), Dominguez Gap Barrier Project (DGBP), and West Coast Basin Barrier Project (WCBBP). The injection wells are utilized to inject freshwater into the underlying aquifers in order to elevate groundwater levels and prevent seawater from intruding into and contaminating a source of potable water supply. The ABP, DGBP, and WCBBP have been in operation since 1966, 1971, and 1953, respectively. Recent unplanned repairs to the existing injection wells have clearly indicated a need to assess the overall condition of the injection wells associated with the ABP, DGBP, and WCBBP. The condition assessment will evaluate the current state of the injection wells and identify their remaining lifetime, recommend measures to prevent further deterioration, and recommend repairs or replacements in an effort to protect our underground water supply from seawater intrusion. The Department of Public Works (Public Works) will return to your Board to request approval to implement any projects that may arise as a result of this assessment.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3). The recommended actions will help achieve these goals by maximizing the effectiveness of the County of Los Angeles' (County) infrastructure and ensuring that County residents receive quality infrastructure services.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

This contract is for a total not-to-exceed fee of \$3,000,000, which includes \$270,000 for contingencies that may arise during the progress of the work. Any contingency work within the not-to-exceed fee of \$3,000,000 will not be performed without prior written authorization from the Chief Engineer or her designee. Funding for this contract is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Flood Control District Budget.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The recommended contractor is MWH Americas, Inc. (MWH), located in Arcadia, California. This contract will commence on the issuance of the Notice to Proceed with a term of two years.

A contract approved as to form by County Counsel will be used. The recommended contract was solicited on an open-competitive basis and is in accordance with the applicable Federal, State, and County requirements. The contractor is in compliance with the requirements of the Chief Executive Officer and your Board.

The award of the contract will not result in unauthorized disclosure of confidential information and will be in full compliance with Federal, State, and County regulations. The project specifications contain provisions requiring the contractor to comply with the terms and conditions supporting your Board's ordinances, policies, and programs, including but not limited to: County's Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) and General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW) Programs, Board Policy No. 5.050; Contract Language to Assist in Placement of Displaced County Workers, Board Policy No. 5.110; Reporting of Improper Solicitations, Board Policy No. 5.060; Notice to Contract Employees of Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law), Board Policy No. 5.135;

Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.203; Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit (Federal Income Tax Law, Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015); Contractor Responsibility and Debarment, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.202; the Los Angeles County's Child Support Compliance Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.200; Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program Ordinance, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.206; and the standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination or renegotiation.

Proof of the required Comprehensive General and Automobile Liability insurance policies, naming the County as additional insured, and evidence of Workers' Compensation insurance will be obtained from the contractor before any work is assigned.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

This project is statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15262 of the CEQA Guidelines. This exemption provides for feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions, which have not been approved, adopted, or funded.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

On February 4, 2010, Public Works, acting on behalf of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to 27 firms to evaluate the condition of the injection wells associated with the ABP, DGBP, and WCBBP. Two consulting firms responded to the RFP. An evaluation committee, comprised of staff from Public Works, evaluated the proposals and determined that MWH is the most qualified and responsible proposer to provide the required services. The evaluation was based on technical expertise, proposed work plan, experience, personnel qualifications, and understanding of the work requirements. The evaluation was completed without regard to race, creed, color, or gender.

As requested by your Board on February 3, 1998, this contract opportunity was listed on the County's "Doing Business with Us" website.

Participation by Community Business Enterprises (CBEs) in the project is encouraged through Public Works' CBE Outreach Program and the requirement that consultants demonstrate their good faith efforts to utilize CBEs. MWH is aware of Public Works' CBE Outreach Program, and its proposed CBE participation is on file with Public Works.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

There will be no negative impact on current County services.

The condition assessment will evaluate injection wells associated with the ABP, DGBP, and WCBBP, and recommend repairs and improvements to improve Public Works' infrastructure and protect our groundwater supply from seawater intrusion.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
6/29/2010  
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Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Public Works, Water Resources Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Farber".

GAIL FARBER  
Director

GF:MP:vr

c: Chief Executive Office  
County Counsel  
Executive Office  
Department of Public Social Services  
(GAIN/GROW Program)